the Ministry of Defence is not aware of any retired Government Defence Industry officials co-operating with M.s Bofors or M|s Mipro in the matter.

CSD entitlemtnt to retired civilians

1425. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the civilian employees working in Defence Ministry are entitled to CSD (I) Canteen Stores Department (India) facilities all over the country;

(b) if so, the reasons for this facility not being available to them after retirement|superannuation, etc;

(c) whether this facility is available to the armed forces personnel; and

(d) the steps taken to extend this facility to all defence civilians of superannuation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (d) Civilian employees working in Defence establishments and paid out of the Defence service Estimates, as well as civilian employees working in the Ministry of Defence, are entitled to purchase items other than liquor from the Unit Run Canteens, which in turn purchase these items from the Canteen Stores Department. This facility is not available to such employees on their retirement.

The Canteen Stores Department has been set up primarily for the benefit of Defence Service personnel, and the extension of the facility to certain categories of civilian personnel is incidental. Because the conditions of service of such personnel are quite distinct from those of Defence Service personnel, further extension of this benefit to retired civilians personnel is not considered necessary. Nor can it be justified in the light of the additional infrastructure which will need to be built up to cater to the additional clientele.

Supply of self-propelled gun system by Russia

1426. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the recent visit of Prime Minister to Russia proposals for supply of different defence weapon systems, including the much needed self-propelled gun system, were discussed;

(b) if so, what are the broad details thereof;

(c) whether the Russians offered the weaponary particularly the aforesaid gun system at comparatively much cheaper rate than the corresponding British weapon systems; and

(d) what was the outcome of the discussions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (d) During his discussions in Russia wih Russian Leaders, Indo-Russian friendship and cooperation in all fields were reiterated by both sides. PM's visit resulted in new momentum being given to Idnia-Russia relations.

In the above context, Defence Cooperation was discussed between the two sides. Assurance have been received

from Russia of continued defence co-operation with India. No specific weapon system was discussed.

Procurement of improved versions of MIGs

1427. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

MAULANA OBAIDULLAH [illegible] AZMI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister during his recent visit to Russia had discussed the question of procuring the improved version of MIGs such as MIG-29 aircraft and for procuring spares for existing MIG-fleet and improving the production and maintenance of different versions of MIGs; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the outcome of the talks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) Issues relating to Defence co-operation between India and Russia were discussed during the recent visit of Prime Minister to Russia. Both sides reiterated their desire to continue and strengthen Indo-Russian friendship and co-operation in all fields. No specific weapon system or aircraft was discussed.

Comprehensive defence deal with Russia

1428. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a comprehensive defence deal was signed between India and Russia during recent visit of Prime Minister to Russia;

(b) if so, the precise terms thereof; and

(c) what steps have been and are being taken in pursuance thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

सेना के अधिकारियों को मुफ्त राशन

1429. **श्री शिव प्रसाद चनपुरिया:** क्या **प्रधान मंत्री** यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारतीय सेना के किस-किस श्रेणी के अधिकारियों को मुफ्त राशन दिए जाने का प्रावधान है ;

(ख) इस प्रकार मुफ्त दिये जाने वाले राशन के लिए निर्धारित की गई मात्रा का मद-वार ब्यौरा क्या है ;

(ग) क्या मुफ्त दिए जाने वाले राशन की गुणवत्ता की जांच की जाती है, यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में क्या प्रक्रिया अपनाई जाती है ; और

(घ) क्या मुफ्त राशन के बदले नकद भुगतान द्वारा राशन लेने का कोई प्रावधान है ?

रक्षा मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मल्लिकार्जुन) : (क) सभी श्रेणियों के सेवारत सैना कार्मिक मुफ्त राशन पाने के हकदार हैं ।

(ख) इसका ब्यौरा संलग्न विवरण में दिया गया है **(नीचे देखिए)** ।

(ग) शुष्क खाद्य-सामग्री की गुणवत्ता की जांच मिश्रित खाद्यान्न प्रयोगशालाओं द्वारा की जाती है, जबकि ताजी खाद्य-सामग्री का निरीक्षण उस समय किया जाता है जब उन्हें सप्लाई डिपुओं को सौंपा जाता है ।

(घ) राशन के बदले में नकद भुगतान तभी किया जाता है जब राशन पाने वाला छुट्टी पर हो या यात्रा पर हो।